IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 – 26. (cancelled)

27. (new) A method for automatically correcting an error during operation of an electrographic printing or copying device, comprising the steps of:

determining whether the error can be automatically corrected in a main error correction mode, and in case the error cannot be corrected, ending the main error-correcting mode;

in case the error can be corrected, switching individual modules to an error-correcting mode in succession;

querying the individual modules in a sequence opposite to that of a printable media transport direction, said querying including

testing a first module by transmitting a command to correct the error to said first module, said command including instructing the first module to move the printable media in the media transport direction in order to clear the first module,

transmitting a status signal indicating that the error is corrected if the error correction is successful or if no error is present, otherwise transmitting a status signal indicating the error is not corrected,

if the status signal indicating that the error has not been corrected in the first module is transmitted, making a determination as to whether operation of the electrographic printing or copying device can proceed without the first module that has the error and, if so, transmitting a

status signal indicating that operation is possible, otherwise transmitting a status signal that the error is not corrected, and

testing the further modules preceding the first module and clearing those modules if necessary; and

if after checking and attempting to clear the modules, the status signal indicates that the error has not been corrected in at least one of the modules, then ending the error-correcting mode and reporting the module registering the error, otherwise ending the main error-correcting mode and transmitting a status signal indicating that the error has been corrected.

28. (new) A method as claimed in claim 27, further comprising a step of:

in case a module indicates a status signal showing that an error has not been corrected, determining whether the module can be bypassed; and

if the module can be bypassed, then transmitting a status signal indicating operation possible, otherwise transmitting a status signal indicating error not corrected.

29. (new) A method as claimed in claim 27, further comprising a step of:

controlling error correction by a dedicated control unit of a querying unit that is controlled by a main control unit of the printing or copying device.

30. (new) A method as claimed in claim 27, further comprising the step of:

separately testing the plurality of consecutively arranged modules of the printing or copying device.

31. (new) A method as claimed in claim 27, further comprising the step of:

initiating testing of a plurality of consecutively arranged modules in the media transport path of the printing or copying device beginning with a last module in the media transport direction and proceeding with testing of modules in the media transport path in the direction opposite the media transport direction through to a first modules in the printable media transport flow path.

32. (new) A method as claimed in claim 27, wherein said modules of the printing or copying device include an input module and an output module for printable media.

33. (new) A method as claimed in claim 32, wherein print modules are disposed in multiple groups between said input modules and said output module and further comprising at least one switch module so that a plurality of transport paths are defined for printable media.

34. (new) A method as claimed in claim 27, wherein said modules include transport modules for transporting printable media, said error is an error in paper transport, and a correction is undertaken to correct a paper jam of at least one sheet of the printable media.

35. (new) An electrographic printing or copying device, comprising:

an input module for printable media to be printed;

a print module including at least one printable media transport path, said print module printing on said printable media;

an output module connected to said print module to receive printed printable media;

a controller connected to said input module, to said print module, and to said output module to detect an error and determine whether the error can be corrected automatically in a main error-correcting mode, said controller switching to said main error-correcting mode in case the error can be corrected, otherwise not initiating said main error-correcting mode;

said controller in said main error-correcting mode performing the steps of

querying the individual modules in a sequence opposite to that of a printable media transport direction, said querying including

testing the output module by transmitting a command to correct the error to said output module, said command including instructing the output module to move the printable media in the media transport direction in order to clear the output module,

transmitting a status signal indicating that the error is corrected if the error correction is successful or if no error is present, otherwise transmitting a status signal indicating the error is not corrected,

if the status signal indicating that the error has not been corrected in the output module is transmitted, making a

determination as to whether operation of the printing or copying device can proceed without the output module that has the error and, if so, transmitting a status signal indicating that operation is possible, otherwise transmitting a status signal that the error is not corrected,

testing the print module and input module preceding the output module and clearing those modules if necessary, and

if after checking and attempting to clear the modules, the status signal indicates that the error has not been corrected in at least one of the modules, then ending the error-correcting mode and reporting the module registering the error, otherwise ending the main error-correcting mode and transmitting a status signal indicating that the error has been corrected.